1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA 9 10 CASE NO. C10-05817 BHS EBONIE M. BLACKFOREST 11 REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON Plaintiff, STIPULATED MOTION FOR REMAND 12 v. 13 MICHAEL J. ASTRUE, Commissioner of the 14 Social Security Administration, 15 Defendant. 16 17 This matter has been referred to Magistrate Judge J. Richard Creatura pursuant to 28 18 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and Local Magistrate Judge Rule MJR 4(a)(4), and as authorized by 19 Mathews, Secretary of H.E.W. v. Weber, 423 U.S. 261 (1976). This matter is before the Court 20 on defendant's stipulated motion to remand the matter to the administration for further 21 consideration (ECF No. 21). 22 After reviewing the stipulated motion and the remaining record, the undersigned 23 recommends that the Court grant defendant's motion, and reverse and remand this matter to the 24 25 Commissioner. 26

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION - 1

The Administrative Law Judge assigned to this matter on remand (hereinafter "the ALJ") should update the treatment evidence of plaintiff's medical condition; address the diagnoses of Schizotypal Personality Disorder, Borderline Personality Disorder, and Dysthymic Disorder; secure evidence from an appropriately qualified medical expert to help resolve the severity of plaintiff's mental condition; articulate how the ALJ has evaluated the severity of all medically determinable mental impairments under the special technique mandated by 20 C.F.R. § 416.920a; consider the credibility of plaintiff's subjective complaints based on the updated record; evaluate the lay witness testimony, including written testimony; further evaluate the medical opinions of record and explain the reasons for the weight given to the opinion evidence; further consider plaintiff's residual functional capacity based on the updated record; and, secure supplemental evidence from a vocational expert.

This Court recommends that the ALJ take any other actions necessary to develop the record. In addition, plaintiff should be allowed to submit additional evidence and arguments to the ALJ on remand.

Based on the relevant record and the parties' stipulation, the undersigned recommends that the Court immediately grant defendant's motion and **REVERSE** the Commissioner's decision pursuant to sentence four of 42 U.S.C. §405(g), with a **REMAND** of the cause to the Commissioner for further proceedings. <u>See Melkonyan v. Sullivan</u>, 501 U.S. 89 (1991).

DATED at this 1st day of July, 2011.

J. Richard Creatura

United States Magistrate Judge